

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ravi I. SHARMA
Serial No. : 10/528,164
Filed : March 14, 2005
For : INVERTED KEYBOARD INSTRUMENT
AND METHOD OF PLAYING THE
SAME
Group Art Unit : 2837
Examiner : Not yet assigned
Confirmation No. : 6495

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant submits herewith additional information which he believes may be material to examination of this Application, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97.

While this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that the information referred to therein is "prior art" to Applicant's invention unless designated as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the filing of this Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information attached to this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

By this submission, Applicant also does not represent that a search has been made nor that better art does not exist.

In addition, Applicant reserves the right to contend, as appropriate, that any information asserted against any claim(s) of the captioned Application is not "prior art" according to the facts and the law.

Applicant further reserves the right to present appropriate arguments and/or evidence to establish patentability over such information, should any citation listed below be applied against any claim(s) of the captioned Application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner, after considering the information set forth below, independently determine those citations which the Examiner would consider to be the most pertinent.

Copies of the following citations are submitted along with Form PTO-1449.

Stanton, U.S. Patent No. 5,841,052, issued November 24, 1998: concerns a finger playable percussion trigger instrument.

Galocy, U.S. Patent No. 5,463,925, issued November 7, 1995: discloses a split-keyboard MIDI controller.

Tait, U.S. Patent No. 4,304,167, issued December 8, 1981: relates to a performer-supported keyboard.

Ohno, U.S. Patent No. 3,617,600, issued November 2, 1971: is directed to a magnetic field responsive key switch device for producing attack effect in electronic musical instruments.

Sopriani, U.S. Patent No. 3,419,668, issued December 31, 1968: concerns an electronic accordion with hinged keyboard and contact plate.

Brodin, U.S. Patent No. 3,335,629, issued August 15, 1967: discloses an electrical musical instrument.

Mutou, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0121398 A1, dated July 3, 2003: relates to a keyboard for musical instrument.

It is requested that the above be made of record in this Application.


Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 13, 2009

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on January 13, 2009

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